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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 08500 051058Z

17
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 IO-14 RSC-01 DRC-01 /036 W
---------- 032905
P R 051000Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6601

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 8500

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK
SUBJECT: UN OBSERVER FORCE IN KASHMIRE

REF: NEW DELHI 11756

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME TO SENATOR PERCY: QUOTE: I WAS DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE AND PASS ON YOUR MESSAGE TO AZIZ ETN AND TO KNOW THAT YOU STILL THINK OF US HERE IN PAKISTAN. AM ALSO, OF COURSE, QUITE PLEASED THAT YOU ARE WILLING TO HELP IN THE UNITED NATIONS THIS FALL.

2. ALTHOUGH EVENTS OF 1965 AND 1971 HAVE CERTAINLY DEMONSTRATED TO THE PAKS THE LIMITED VALUE OF THE UN OVSERVER FORCE IN KASHMIR AS A DETERRENT TO HOSTILITIES, THEY STILL REGARD IT AS A SYMBOL OF INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION THAT THE STATUS OF THE AREA REMAINS UNSETTLED. I THINK THEY WOULD VIEW THE REDUCTION OR REMOVAL OF THE FORCE AS EVIDENCE THAT THE WORLD WAS WASHING ITS HANDS OF THE PROBLEM.

3. THE PAKS ARE SENSITIVE ABOUT THIS AND I THINK THEY WOULD RESIST ANY CHANGE AT THIS TIME. THEY WOULD BE PARTICULARLY UPSET I THINK BY U.S. INITIATIVE TOWARDS THIS END. IF IT TOOK PLACE I BELIEVE THAT BHUTTO WOULD CONSIDER IT A DIPLOMATIC SETBACK AND WOULD FEAR THAT IT COULD UNDERCUT THE POLITICAL STRENGTH AND SUPPORT
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HE NEEDS AT HOME IF HE IS TO CONTINUE TO BRING PAK

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PUBLIC OPINION ALONG WITH HIM IN HIS EFFORTS TO MOVE
TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITHIN.

4. AS YOU KNOW, THE PAKS AND INDIANS ARE WORKING THEIR
WAY FORWARD FROM EASILY NEGOTIABLE ITEMS (E.G., RESTORATION
OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES DISRUPTED IN THE AR)
TO THE TOUGH ONES. I EXPECT THAT IT WILL BE A LONG
PROCESS AND WE WILL BE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN HERE
TO HELP IT ALONG. I CERTAINLY SHARE YOUR HOPE THAT
AS THE TALKS PROCEED THEY WILL EVENTUALLY REACH THE
POINT WHERE THE LONG-SUFFERING UN OBSERVERS CAN GO
HOME AND THEIR DEPARTURE CELEBRATED AS EVIDENCE THAT
THE PAKS AND INDIANS CAN SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS.
BUT I DON'T BELIEVE WE ARE NEAR THAT POINT YET, AND
I THINK FOR US TO TRY TO GET IT DONE NOW WOULD BE MORE
OF A HINDRANCE THAN A HELP TO NORMALIZATION IN THE
SUBCONTINENT.

5. WARMEST REGARDS. IF YOUR GOOD WIFE IS WITH YOU,
PLEASE PASS ALONG OUR VERY BEST FROM MRS. BYROADE AND
MYSELF. UNQUOTE.
BYROADE

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